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SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 2005 - JORDAN

Ref: State 202764

1. Post is planning two events to commemorate Human Rights Day. Both feature former Ambassador Swanee Hunt who will be in Jordan December 9 - 11. Amb. Hunt will participate in programs on women's rights as an integral part of human rights. She has worked with Jordanian and Iraqi women on these issues in the past. The Embassy's first program will be a dinner hosted by Ambassador Hale on Human Rights Day which will bring together prominent actors on the Jordanian human rights scene. The second is a panel discussion at which Ambassador Hunt will speak on "Women, Peace, and Security: Why Women?"

2. On December 10, the Jordanian National Center for Human Rights is arranging an event at the Al Hussein Cultural Center of the Municipality of Amman to celebrate Human Rights Day. The agenda will include a photo exhibit and a lecture given by Dr. Walid Abdul Hai, Professor of Political Science from Yarmouk University entitled "The Effect of Globalization on Human Rights." Amb. Hunt has been invited to attend, along with PA staff.

3. Later that day, Ambassador Hale will host a dinner in honor of Ambassador Hunt for high-level activists in the human rights arena as well as government officials.

4. The Public Affairs and Political Sections are planning to mark Human Rights Day in partnership with the National Center for Human Rights. We are taking advantage of Ambassador Hunt's visit to invite human rights activists, government officials, and parliament members for a panel debate and open dialogue on "Women's Rights as a part of Human Rights." The panel debate will take place December 11 at Al Hussein Club, followed by a lunch hosted by the Public Affairs Section. Ambassador Hale will attend the roundtable.

Rubinstein